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Thursday, April 6, 2017 metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly

PEPSI'S BIG BLUNDER

The soda giant pulls a controversial ad starring Kendall Jenner after backlash. 13

Hop on over to these Easter brunches. 16-17

Masters preview: First major tees off today. 22

2017 subaru cherry blossom festival of Greater Philadelphia 桜
Sakura Sunday, April 9
subarucherryblossom.org
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Fairmount Park Horticulture Center
a project of the Japan America Society of Greater Philadelphia

TRUMP DROPS BANNON FROM SECURITY COUNCIL

1 President Donald Trump removed his chief strategist Steve Bannon from the National Security Council. Trump's overhaul of the NSC, confirmed by a White House official, also elevated General Joseph Dunford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Dan Coats, the director of National Intelligence who heads all 17 U.S. intelligence agencies. The official said the change moves

the NSC "back to its core function of what it's supposed to do." It also appears to mark a victory by national security adviser H.R. McMaster, who had told some national security experts he felt he was in a battle to the death with Bannon and others on the White House staff. REUTERS

AIR FORCE F-16 CRASHES NEAR WASHINGTON

2 A U.S. Air Force F-16 fighter plane crashed near Washington on Wednesday during a training mission, and the pilot ejected safely while suffering non-life-threatening injuries, the military said. The District of Columbia Air National Guard plane went down about 9:15 a.m. some 6 miles southwest of the capital's Joint Base Andrews while on a training flight with other National Guard aircraft, the base said in a statement on Twitter. "The pilot ejected and sustained non-life-threatening injuries," it said. The statement gave no details on the possible cause of the crash. Prince George's County Fire spokesman Mark Brady said on Twitter that the pilot was being evaluated at hospital and was in good condition. REUTERS

US DISMISSES RUSSIAN ASSERTION OF BLAME

3 U.S. officials dismissed Russia's assertion on Wednesday that Syrian rebels were to blame for a poison gas attack rather than President Bashar al-Assad, and signaled possible unilateral action over what Donald Trump called an "affront to humanity." The president said the attack, which killed at least 70 people, many of them children, "crossed a lot of lines," an allusion to his

predecessor Barack Obama's threat to topple Assad with air strikes if he used such arms. It was not clear what, if any, action Trump would take. Western countries, including the United States, blamed Assad's armed forces for the worst chemical attack in Syria for more than four years. REUTERS

INFAMOUS TENT CITY SHUTTING DOWN

4 Established in 1993, Tent City, the controversial open-air jail in southwest Phoenix, was a prominent symbol of former Sheriff Joe Arpaio. Prisoners at the facility are fed twice a day, sleep in non-air conditioned tents and are issued striped prison uniforms and pink undergarments to wear. GETTY IMAGES

5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

BOEING FORMS VENTURE GROUP, INVESTS IN TECH

5 Boeing said it had launched a venture capital arm and invested in two tech startups, a fresh sign of the importance big companies see in keeping up with rapidly evolving technology for designing and making products. Boeing's new division, known as HorizonX, invested in Upskill, a Washington, D.C.-based software company that uses Google Glass-type eye wear to help assembly workers with complex tasks such as creating wiring bundles for Boeing jetliners. It also invested in Zunum Aero, a Seattle-area company that is working on electric-hybrid aircraft aimed at bringing down the cost of flying to regional airports. Zunum also received funding from JetBlue Technology Ventures, a unit of the New York-based JetBlue Airways Corp. REUTERS

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Reebok plans a new headquarters at The Innovation and Design Building in Boston. PROVIDED

Reebok aims to 'grow' plant-based, sustainable shoes out of cotton and corn

The new line, which may eventually be completely compostable, is part of a growing trend among manufacturers to be more environmentally friendly.

KRISTIN TOUSSAINT
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kristin.toussaint@metro.us

Reebok is growing shoes, and they are about ready to blossom.

The global apparel company will release a limited-edition, plant-based line of athletic shoes in the fall that will feature a sole made from industrial-grown corn, along with an organic cotton upper.

The Cotton + Corn initiative is Reebok's effort to create a more sustainable and recyclable shoe, and position itself as an environment-friendly label.

"Everything that goes into this product are things that can be grown," said Bill McInnis, who leads Reebok's innovation department, which it calls the Future team. That compares to petroleum and oil-based products, he said, which are "pulled from the ground, and once you use them, you can't ever use them again."

Reebok's effort is one example of a growing trend among shoe manufacturers to consider the Earth. Nike has its "Reuse-a-Shoe" and "Nike Grind" programs, which turn old sneakers into surfaces for running tracks, playgrounds and weight-room floors. Boston-based New Balance is part of the Sustainable Apparel Coalition, a collection of brands with a lofty vision to produce "no unnecessary environmental harm."

While Reebok isn't breaking new ground with cotton, it is among the first major brands to use corn to create an athletic shoe, the company said. Eventually, Reebok hopes to develop a shoe that can be composted.

The company, which will move its headquarters to Boston in the fall, partnered with the manufacturing company DuPont Tate & Lyle Bio Product to come up with the corn base for the new shoe. The material, which DuPont has trademarked, is called Susterra, and was developed from field corn.

U.S. consumers spend about $30 billion a year on footwear, according to StatisticBrain. That leaves a big carbon footprint from the manufacture of the products and their eventual disposal.

A 2013 MIT study found that creating a pair of shoes generates about 30 pounds of carbon dioxide, equal to leaving on a 100-watt lightbulb for one week straight.

And when that shoe is worn out, Americans throw out an estimated 300 million shoes each year, with most of them ending up in landfills.

"If you stand back and look at the athletic shoe industry as a whole, neither the front end, how we make shoes, nor the back end, how shoes are disposed of, is the cleanest possible way to create or dispose of a product," McInnis said.

Besides cotton, companies have looked for more innovative ways to create apparel out of natural fibers and crops. Among the most common is hemp.

For Reebok, the Cotton + Corn project has been five years in the making, but the company calls it only a first step. The goal is to have a range of plant-based shoes that will be compostable.

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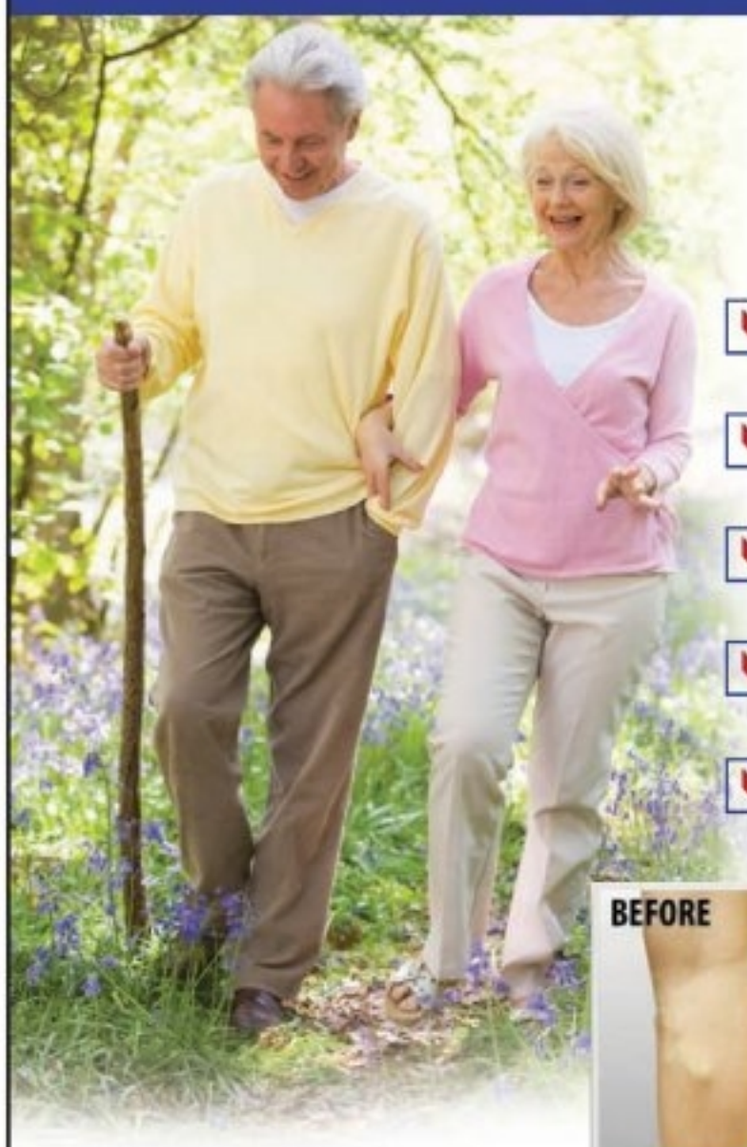

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Water samples collected from Dimock displayed during a rally on fracking-related water investigations Oct. 10, 2014, outside EPA Headquarters in Washington.

Opponents of fracking hold placards during a rally in Lafayette Square, across from the White House. ALL IMAGES COURTESY GETTY IMAGES

Families, fracking company ordered to settle dispute

The families gained notoriety following the 2010 documentary "Gasland."

Two Pennsylvania families who claimed their drinking water had been tainted by fracking and the energy company they blamed for it say they will try to reach a settlement after a judge threw out a $4.2 million jury verdict against the company.

The case in Dimock in Northeastern Pennsylvania is one of the highest-profile incidents in the United States of residents contending that fracking polluted their well water, an allegation the company Cabot Oil & Gas Co. has denied.

Magistrate Judge Martin Carlson has ordered the Dimock families and Cabot to try to reach a settlement.

The Ely and Hubert families were the last of more than 40 families living in the town to continue their legal battle. They charged that their water was contaminated with methane gas after Cabot began fracking in 2008. The other families settled in 2012.

"We were always for mediation," said Leslie Lewis, a lawyer for the families. "We had to go to trial because we couldn't get a fair decision."

Lewis said she was looking into whether her clients could appeal the judge's order.

Carlson's opinion said that jurors had allowed sympathy for the families to outweigh hard evidence presented during the trial.

Cabot had hoped the judge would throw out the case altogether.

"Although the court agrees with Cabot that the evidence presented in support of the plaintiffs' claims was spare ... [it] does not agree that Cabot has demonstrated that it is entitled to have a judgment entered in the company's favor," Carlson wrote.

Stephen Dillard, lead counsel for Cabot, said the company would abide by the judge's order and begin mediation.

Dimock gained notoriety following the 2010 documentary "Gasland" by Josh Fox which showed local residents lighting their tap water on fire because of the high amount of methane it contained.

"We were always for mediation."
Leslie Lewis

Cabot and the gas industry have long held that fracking and drilling were safe and not responsible for water contamination.

Carlson said in his ruling that Lewis' courtroom behavior may have prejudiced the jury, saying the lawyer presented the case she wished she had instead of one that abided by his pre-trial rulings excluding certain evidence and witnesses.

"The court was highly critical of me," Lewis said in an e-mail on Monday. "At Cabot's request, the court excluded critical, relevant evidence, inextricably linked to the facts and claims in this civil matter." REUTERS

Protesters march at an early Black Lives Matter rally in November 2014.
CHARLES MOSTOLLER

Black Lives Matter Philly defends restricting meetings to people of color

Group responds to "discrimination" accusations that were first posted by alt-right Breitbart News.

SAM NEWHOUSE
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Black Lives Matter Philly has issued an impassioned defense of its policy of restricting meetings to people of color after being the subject of an online attack from conservative news media outlets and their followers.

On Wednesday, the Philadelphia branch of the organization wrote that it is "unapologetically Black and believe[s] having Black only spaces — where Black people can come together to strategize, organize, heal and fellowship without the threat of violence and co-optation — is an important part of Black liberation. … This is not the first time we have received backlash and threats in relation to how we organize."

The online firestorm began after alt-right Breitbart News reported earlier this week that Black Lives Matter Philly had instituted "a policy of discrimination based on skin color."

The reporting was based on tweets from BLM Philly about its upcoming April meeting, scheduled to take place at Mastery Charter School. Scores of tweets from right-wing supporters against BLM Philly followed the article's publication. A woman from the West Coast first drew attention to BLM Philly by noting that white supporters participated in the civil rights movement.

In a now deleted tweet, BLM Philly responded: "He made that choice and we have made ours. White people can support us but they cannot attend our meetings." It later referenced civil rights icon Malcolm X as having a similar view.

In its statement, BLM Philly asserted that Breitbart equating its policy with "discrimination" was inaccurate and offensive.

"There is a huge difference between a systematic denial of a person's access to public spaces such as restaurants, hotels, schools and hospitals simply based on their skin color, and saying that a meeting is a Black-centered space," BLM Philly stated. "Trying to compare legal segregation and structural racism to lack of access to our meetings is a false dichotomy and the epitome of privilege."

STRANGE BEDFELLOWS

Greens, GOP team up in lawsuit to void special election

Cheri Honkala of the Green Party and Republican Lucinda Little disagree on nearly everything political.

But they do agree on this: They contend that they were deprived of a fair election by the machinations of the Philadelphia Democratic Party.

"At the end of the day, we're neighbors," said Little, of Feltonville. "We care about what's going on in our neighborhood. We both agree our neighborhood is suffering from Democratic control."

Both women ran in a March 21 special election for state representative in the 197th District, and both have alleged widespread electioneering and shenanigans by elections staff and Democratic campaigners to help Democrat Emilio Vazquez win the race.

Now they're filing a federal lawsuit to void the results of the election and hold another vote, as Vazquez, a former Philadelphia Parking Authority auditor, was sworn into office on Wednesday. They claim the Federal Voting Rights Act, Philadelphia and Pennsylvania Election Codes were violated during the election.

The original Democratic candidate, Freddie Ramirez, was booted off the ballot for not living in the district. Honkala was denied a spot on the ballot because her paperwork was turned in late.

Little was the only candidate on the ballot, with Honkala and Vazquez running write-in campaigns, handing out stamps with their names on them for voters to use.

Honkala and Little both claim their voters were harassed by elections and campaign staff, and that stamps with Vazquez's name on them were handed out inside polling places.

Vazquez won with 1,970 write-in votes, while Honkala got 282 write-ins. Little got 198 votes.
SAM NEWHOUSE

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For Trump, Mar-a-Lago is place to break the ice with China's Xi

President Donald Trump has told visitors that his Mar-a-Lago retreat is set up perfectly for foreign visits, but the Chinese side was initially hesitant when word came that Trump would like to meet Chinese President Xi Jinping there.

Even after seeing images of Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's back-slapping sessions with Trump at Mar-a-Lago in February, Chinese officials thought the ocean-front, Spanish-style club in Palm Beach, Florida, lacked the symbolic significance of the White House itself.

"They thought, no, it has to be the White House, the symbolism of that," a senior administration official told Reuters. "They were ultimately convinced that this was worth doing. It's unusual because most foreigners realize that being invited to the president's personal place is a big deal."

Trump and Xi are to hold their first summit encounter beginning on Thursday at Mar-a-Lago, a property that original owner Marjorie Merriweather Post's estate willed to the U.S. government for use as a diplomatic and presidential retreat after her death in 1973.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying told reporters in Beijing that the Chinese side was fine with having the meeting there.

"President Trump, after taking office, announced that Mar-a-Lago would be the winter White House. The U.S. proposal to hold the U.S.-China heads of state meeting there, I think, represents the importance that the U.S. side places on this meeting. China respects the U.S. side's arrangements," she said.

No matter where the heads of state meet, "the most important thing is to develop China-U.S. relations and make contributions to both countries and the world," she said.

View of an American flag on a flagstick in a golf course hole on the west lawn of the Mar-a-Lago estate, Palm Beach, Florida GETTY IMAGES

"It's a place where [Trump] feels comfortable and at home, and where he can break the ice with Xi Jinping without the formality, really, of a Washington meet-up."

A senior White House official

Topping the agenda at Mar-a-Lago will be U.S.-China trade ties and U.S. requests for China to help rein in its nuclear-armed neighbor North Korea.

Trump bought the estate in 1985 and turned it into an exclusive club, which now boasts a membership fee of $200,000 and is a haven for the tony Palm Beach set who pull up to the gate in Bentleys and Rolls-Royces.

Xi and his wife, Peng Liyuan, will join Trump and his wife, Melania, for dinner on Thursday night then Trump and Xi will have a series of meetings there on Friday. The entire visit will last less than 24 hours.

"What matters is that the two of them get together for a successful summit, even if it's on the moon," said former U.S. ambassador to China, Max Baucus.

"However, I do think that Mar-a-lago will probably help enhance conversation between the two of them. President Trump can show President Xi around, show him the digs. Trump is very proud of that, and President Xi will be interested in seeing all of that."

Past U.S. presidents have often turned to settings away from the trappings of Washington to conduct delicate diplomacy. George H.W. Bush had his seaside estate in Kennebunkport, Maine, and George W. Bush frequently played host to foreign leaders at his ranch in Crawford, Texas.

Trump's immediate predecessor, Barack Obama, used the Sunnylands retreat in Rancho Mirage, California, as a site for an informal summit with Xi in 2013.

While Trump treated Abe to golf, no such outing is planned for the leader of China.

Mar-a-Lago has already been the scene of some controversy for Trump.

When a North Korean missile test disrupted Abe's visit there, Trump and the Japanese leader were seen at a dinner table on the terrace discussing how to respond, as club members looked on from nearby tables.

REUTERS

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Trump administration says it's no longer mulling separating women and children at border

The Trump administration is no longer considering separating women and children at the southern U.S. border as a means of deterring their migration, a Department of Homeland Security spokesman said Wednesday.

Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly was questioned by a Senate panel Wednesday, but only said it was not current policy to separate women and children except in certain circumstances.

The policy, first reported by Reuters, is "no longer under consideration, so the current policy is it," said DHS spokesman David Lapan said.

A DHS official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said the agency has changed course in part because of the sharp decline in women attempting to travel to the United States with their children.

Only 1,125 children traveling with guardians, who are mostly women, were apprehended at the southern U.S. border in March, according to data released Wednesday by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

The decline marks a 93 percent fall since December in what was previously the fastest-growing demographic of immigrant apprehensions.

Overall, immigrant apprehensions fell to a 17-year low, down to 16,600 in March.

Kelly credited President Donald Trump's tough immigration policies for the decline.

Under Trump, who took office on Jan. 20, the Department of Homeland Security had weighed separating women and children and issued guidance instructing officers to criminally charge parents who pay human smugglers to transport their children.

Trump also broadened the categories of illegal immigrants prioritized for deportation to include those charged, even if not convicted, of serious crimes.

REUTERS

Secretary of Homeland Security John Kelly GETTY IMAGES

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Nightclub gunman's widow will be sent to face charges in Fla.

The widow of the gunman who killed 49 people at a gay nightclub in Orlando, Florida, has agreed to return to the state from California to face federal charges, her lawyer said.

Noor Salman, the wife of Omar Mateen, had been due to argue in court April 10 against the transfer. But on Tuesday she waived her right to that hearing, according to her lawyer, Haitham "Sam" Amin.

Court records showed the 30-year-old would instead return to Orlando, where she will face charges of obstructing justice and providing support to terrorism for lying to investigators about Mateen's mass shooting.

Salman will remain in custody until the U.S. Marshals Service takes her to Florida.

The Pulse nightclub GETTY IMAGES

"We're going to continue fighting, and we are optimistic," Amin said during a phone interview.

The date for Salman's transfer was not immediately known. A representative from the U.S. Court for the Middle District of Florida did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Police killed Mateen, a U.S. citizen of Afghan descent, after a three-hour shooting rampage last June at the Pulse nightclub. During the incident, he called 911 dispatchers to profess allegiance to a leader of the Islamic State militant group.

Salman was arrested in February at her mother's home in the San Francisco Bay Area. Prosecutors said she knew Mateen was planning an attack and fabricated a story to cover for him.

In March, a federal judge in Orlando ordered that Salman remain in jail, revoking a bail order issued by a federal magistrate in Northern California who had initially found her to be of no danger or a serious flight risk. REUTERS

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Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, at public sale by competitive bidding on April 19, 2017 at 10:00 AM at the Extra Space Storage facility located at:

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The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but are not limited to general household, furniture, boxes, clothes, and appliances.

1A47 Elizabeth Mcnair Party Favors, boxes and bins; 1A61 Jerome Knight home goods; 1A79 Lydia Cunningham household items: 2A08 Kariem Young large apartment; 2A120 Clayton J Williams household goods; 2A123 Clareta Williams dining room table 2 chairs 2 couches, 1 bed, kitchen ware, bicycles and grill; 2A17Jesusette L Plummer kids bed, totes, dresser; 2A29 Donna Simpson household items; 2A38 Debra Jackson Household goods; 2A41 Alicia Marie Watson Household goods; 2A70 Simone Devero 1 bedroom apr 2 fridges washer dryer boxes sofa; 2A85 Myra Thomas household goods; 2A91 Danielle Freeman Household items; 2B39 Andre Philips Clothes, wheelchair and electronics; 2C24 Malcolm Smith household goods; 2C51 Nijel A-Dar stereo, tv, speakers, clothes, hats; 2C84 Glen Edwards storing two bedroom sets and living room and dining room and boxes; 2D118 Alvarado Cierra totes; 2D21 Jacqueline Barr household goods; 2D254 George Walker Home goods and tools/power tools; 2E42 Sheila Robinson household goods; 3A22 Richard Robinson books and personal items; 3A234 Errol Miller N/A; 3A27 Georgeanne Tripp household goods; 3B08 Albert Tatom household goods; 3C18 Rasheeda J Larke Bed set, night stand and boxes 2 tv's and household items; 3L06 Howard Walker Sr. clothes, electronics, seasonal items; 4A124 Kim Johnson school items, household items; 4A16 Quaderah Hodge household furniture; 4C11 Johnnie Mae Smith storing two bedroom sets, table with 2 chairs and dresser and end table and desk and boxes; 4E74 Venessa McClain bed full couch tv.

Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the time of sale. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to bid. Sale is subject to adjournment.

NOTICE OF SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, at public sale by competitive bidding on **April 19, 2017** at **2:00PM**, at the Extra Space Storage facility located at: **1553 Grant Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19115, (215) 464-3913**. The personal goods stored therin by the following may include, but are not limited to general household, furniture, boxes, clothes and appliances.

213 - Vincent Petruzzelli II - (Boxes, Household Items)
189 - Paulina Ozdemir - (Furniture, Household), 65 - Belen Clark - (Household)
482 - Carolyn Muller - (Flea Market Inventory)

Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the time of sale. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to refuse any bid. Sale is subject to adjournment.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, at public sale by competitive bidding on **April 19, 2017** at **1:15PM** at the Extra Space Storage facility located at: **6204 Oxford Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19111, 215-744-1563.** The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but are not limited to general household, furniture, boxes, clothes, and appliances.

A104C Paul Fletcher Bailey (Clothes, Electronics), A111C Kayaria Ford (China Cabinet), A115C Bryant Cloud (Phone Accessories), B165C Dolonda L. Collette (Furniture, Boxes), D145 Olga Zlat (Household Items), E116 Olga Zlat (Household Items), V102 Philip O. Boggs (1989 TR Ford)

Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the time of sale. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to bid. Sale is subject to adjournment.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that Extra Space Storage will sell at public auction at the storage facility listed below, to satisfy the lien of the owner, personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at location indicated: Extra Space Storage **12005 Roosevelt Blvd, Philadelphia, PA 19154 215-514-2704, April 19, 2017** at **2:45pm.**

#501 Barbara Hunt household items, #J14 Michael Dolchan household items, # 1218 Lance Jenkins furniture, tv, microwave, #C11 James Newton household goods, furniture, #431 Peggy Ganey household items, clothing

Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

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will be conducting a **Public Sale** of the contents of the storage spaces listed below, with the contents being sold to the highest bidder. Owner reserves the right to bid, reject any or all bids, and cancel or adjourn the sale. The sale is being held to satisfy a landlord's lien and will take place via an on-line auction at www.storagetreasures.com on **APRIL 6, 2017** beginning at approximately **10am** and concluding on **APRIL 18, 2017** at approximately **10am.** Certain terms and conditions apply.

#336 Eugene Roberts, #409 Steven O'Connell

Taser changes name in shift to software, police services

Taser International Inc. makers the eponymous device used by police to stun and incapacitate a person temporarily.

Taser International Inc.'s X3 stun gun GETTY IMAGES

Taser International Inc. is changing its name to Axon as it pushes further into the software business. The Axon name comes from Taser's unit that sells police body cameras, patrol car cameras and the software for managing the hours of digital footage they generate.

In a gamble that police departments will sign up for paid software subscriptions, the company is offering free body cameras to police officers in addition to a year of free access to evidence.com, its online software for managing video and other evidence.

Taser still gets the bulk of its revenue from its weapons, which use electrical current to immobilize targets. Last year, $202.6 million of its $268.2 million in revenue came from its weapons segment, mostly in the form of replacement cartridges.

Nearly a quarter of Taser's revenue now comes from the Axon segment. Software revenue for evidence.com nearly doubled to $11.7 million.

"The hardware creates an issue for police departments in a sense that you're creating hours and hours of raw data," said Steve Dyer, senior research analyst for Craig-Hallum Capital Group. "You have the question not only of how to store the data in an industry that is not traditionally that tech savvy, but also how to handle digital evidence with the same safeguards as physical evidence."

> *"The hardware creates an issue for police departments in a sense that you're creating hours and hours of raw data."*
>
> Dyer

Evidence.com software is sold on a subscription basis, typically five-year contracts. That means Taser has to spend money to sign up customers, while revenue follows over length of the contract.

Software companies including salesforce.com or Workday Inc. have persuaded investors to accept this revenue model. But it can cut into profits in the short term: Taser's profits dipped from $19.9 million to $17.2 million last year despite strong revenue growth.

"Once an agency has been on board with evidence.com for five years, we think the churn rate will be quite low," Chief Executive Rick Smith told Reuters. REUTERS

Facebook to use photo-matching to block repeat 'revenge porn'

Facebook is adding tools to make it easier for users to report so-called revenge porn and to automatically prevent the images from being shared again once they have been banned, the company said.

"Revenge porn" refers to the sharing of sexually explicit images on the internet, without the consent of the people depicted in the pictures, in order to extort or humiliate them. The practice disproportionately affects women, who are sometimes targeted by former partners.

Facebook has been sued in the United States and elsewhere by people who said it should have done more to prevent the practice. The company in 2015 made clear that images "shared in revenge" were forbidden, and users have long had the ability to report posts as violating the terms of service.

Beginning on Wednesday, users of the world's largest social network should see an option to report a picture as inappropriate specifically because it is a "nude photo of me," Facebook said in a statement.

The company also said it was launching an automated process to prevent the repeat sharing of banned images. REUTERS

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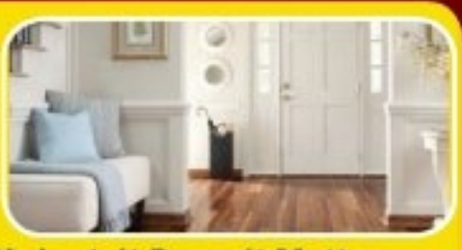

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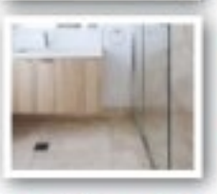

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Louis C.K. amends Trump comparison to Hitler

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Louis C.K. would like to clarify his statements about President Trump.

In March of last year, the comedian called Donald Trump an "insane bigot," and also "Hitler." This week, he told Stephen Colbert he has no intention of backing down from the statement — but he would like to make a little amendment.

"I guess he's not as profound as I thought he was. I thought he was a new kind of evil," CK said, according to Vanity Fair. "But he's just a lying sack of s—t. It's just simple." True!

C.K. is known for being a comedian, but really he should be a poet. He'd win the Pulitzer! There's something beautiful about the way he puts words together; later in the interview he calls Trump a "gross crook, dirty rotten lying sack of s—t," and it just brings a single, perfectly formed tear to my eye.

So, yeah, Louis C.K. 2020?

the word

RACHAEL CLEMMONS
rachael.clemmons@metro.us

Why won't Chelsea Handler leave Angelina alone?

As you may know, Chelsea Handler and Jennifer Aniston are true-blue friends. Besties, if you will. As you also may know, Chelsea Handler just says whatever she wants all the time, and sometimes it causes drama.

For example, in this interview with You Magazine, Handler is asked for her opinion on Jennifer Aniston and Angelina Jolie, because we have magically been transported back to 2005. "I don't think Jen cares about what's going on, and it's crazy that people thinks she does. As if she's sitting around caring about [Angelina Jolie]. I know I don't."

Handler, 42, knows that the best way to prove you don't care about someone is to talk about them constantly. That's why she went on a rant on her show, calling Jolie a "f—king lunatic."

It's because she doesn't care! I mean, when I don't care about someone, I use a huge platform, like, say, my television show, or perhaps an interview about my upcoming projects, to talk about the thing I don't give a flying toot about. Because I don't care.

As always, Handler is a role model and a real mature lady.

Pepsi finally pulls tone-deaf Kendall Jenner ad

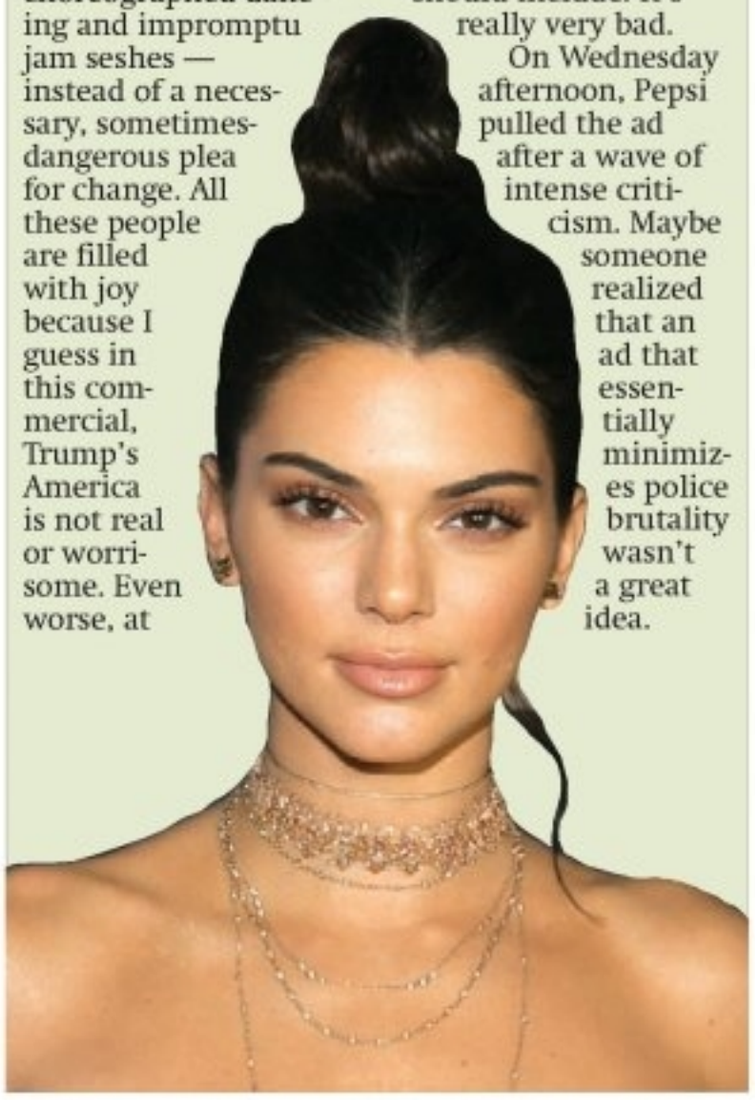
Kendall Jenner is cashing in on the very fashionable trend of resistance, and it's going about as well as you could expect.

The 21-year-old — who attended Fashion Week instead of the Women's March — has partnered with Pepsi for an ad that is as straight-up bananas as it is tone-deaf.

In the ad, Jenner decides to quit a modeling gig halfway through because there's a protest going on and she just has to join! The protest, of course, looks more like a fun weekend activity — what with all the choreographed dancing and impromptu jam seshes — instead of a necessary, sometimes-dangerous plea for change. All these people are filled with joy because I guess in this commercial, Trump's America is not real or worrisome. Even worse, at the end of the commercial, Jenner hands a cop a cold, gleaming can of Pepsi. Because if anything is going to bring our torn country back together, it's a can of America's second-favorite cola.

This is what happens when you don't have people of color in a room to help you make decisions. The thought of Kendall Jenner as the face of some sort of anti-Trump resistance is laughable. As is Pepsi's attempt at inclusion — it legitimately looks like it had a checklist of which different racial stereotypes they should include. It's really very bad.

On Wednesday afternoon, Pepsi pulled the ad after a wave of intense criticism. Maybe someone realized that an ad that essentially minimizes police brutality wasn't a great idea.



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Back to the past with

The legendary actor still got starstruck with his famous "Going in Style" co-stars.

MATT PRIGGE
@mattprigge
matt.prigge@metro.us

Christopher Lloyd sits out the bank heist perpetrated by Michael Caine, Morgan Freeman and Alan Arkin in "Going in Style," in theaters Friday. WARNER BROS. PICTURES

Sometimes you find yourself in a room laboriously explaining 1990's "The Earth Day Special" to someone who was in it. That person is Christopher Lloyd. The star-studded program — one of the first earnest attempts to get American couch potatoes to really care about the environment — included a who's who of film and TV. Christopher Lloyd was one of them. He and Michael J. Fox reprised their "Back to the Future" roles, doing a little sketch that had something or other to do with saving Mother Earth.

Lloyd doesn't even remember it. Then again, who does?

We ask the legendary character actor — and staple of '80s and '90s blockbuster cinema, as well as "Taxi's" resident Reverend Jim Ignatowski — about the forgotten, cheesily noble 27-year-old "Earth Day Special" only because another cast member was Morgan Freeman. It's the only time the two have technically worked together — though they never shared a scene or even met — until they both appeared in "Going in Style," Zach Braff's new codger-bank-robber comedy, also starring Michael Caine and Alan Arkin. (Lloyd isn't one of the thieves. He's a fellow retiree in their Brooklyn neighborhood who mostly makes funny faces.)

That Christopher Lloyd might not remember a gig makes sense. According to the Internet Movie Database, he has more than 200 film and TV credits to his name. Some of them are huge

'Midnight, Texas' will fill that 'True Blood'-sized hole

Geek Girl in Hollywood

JENNA BUSCH
legionofleia.com

Before "True Blood" aired on HBO, I'd read all the books. I was thoroughly invested in the show. I was so invested that, when it went off the rails in the final few seasons, I still watched. I had followed Sookie and her friends for so long that I kind of felt obligated, like you do with that one friend from college. You know, the one you really liked once upon a time, but now you can't stand the way she chews. It wasn't the books; I loved those. It was the show. I mean, really, the fairies were just a mess.

That said, I'm about to take a chance on a new series inspired by the work of author Charlaine Harris. This time around, I haven't read the books. I got a chance to check out the pilot of "Midnight, Texas" at WonderCon last weekend, and I loved it. It reminded me of what I loved about "True Blood" when it first started. It was charming.

If you're not familiar

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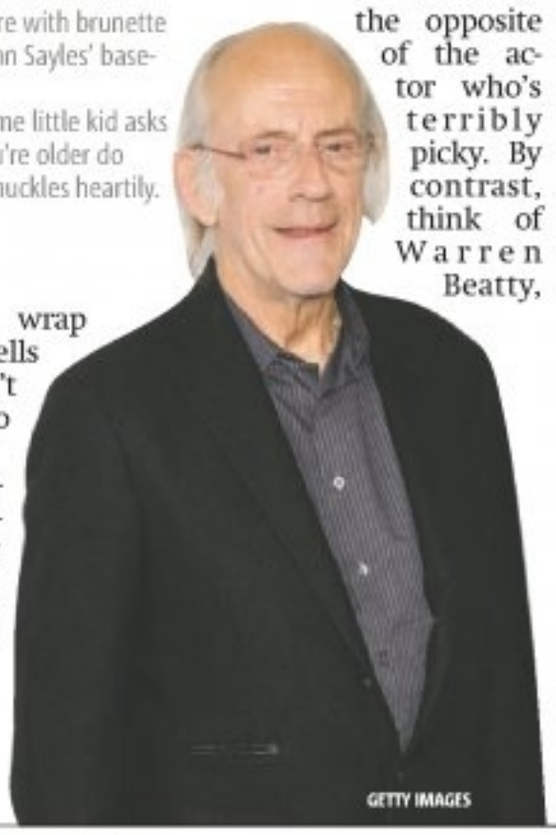
Christopher Lloyd

Reeling in years

One of the strangest aspects of Lloyd's career is that he's been playing white-haired old men for over 30 years. He was only 47 when he played Doc Brown in "Back to the Future." Today he's 78 — a little older than even Doc Brown ever was — but back then it could be a shock to see him with play his own age, standing there with brunette hair, in films like "Clue," "Dennis the Menace" and John Sayles' baseball biopic "Eight Men Out."

"I once did a Q&A for 'Back to the Future,' and some little kid asks for the microphone and says, 'Mr. Lloyd, now that you're older do you miss putting on old-age makeup?'" he says. He chuckles heartily. "Great observation for a little tyke."


GETTY IMAGES

("Who Framed Roger Rabbit," the "Addams Family" movies, "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," which was his screen debut). Some of them aren't. There's a lot of voice work. If he hasn't been ubiquitous like he was three decades ago, he is consistently working. The projects can all blend together.

"I've done a lot of films I haven't heard about since wrap night," Lloyd tells us. "But I don't care. I have to work."

Lloyd recalls Billy Crystal making fun of Caine during one of the Academy Award telecasts, saying he "never saw a script he didn't like."

"That's kind of my philosophy," Lloyd tells us. "Unless it's total garbage, I'll work, whatever comes along. The money might not be fabulous. But I don't mind that."

He thinks of himself as the opposite of the actor who's terribly picky. By contrast, think of Warren Beatty, who before last year's Howard Hughes film "Rules Don't Apply" didn't make a movie for 15 years.

"Some actors want to work, but they have a set of criteria that perhaps limits them," Lloyd says. "It gets worse as you get older. Although there's always grandpas to play."

Amazingly, five decades in the industry haven't made Christopher Lloyd any less prone to turn starstruck. Even Lloyd couldn't believe he was on a set with Michael Caine, Morgan Freeman and Alan Arkin.

"They're like icons to me, the three of them," he confesses. "Going in Style" also finds room for another legend: Ann-Margret, who plays a feisty local fixated on Arkin's grumpy, anti-social character. "We were never working on the same day. I just met her yesterday. She's a personality."

NBC UNIVERSAL

with the premise of the show, a man named Manfred is the lead. He's a medium. Most of the time he fakes it, but he's really a conduit for the dead. His grandma even helps him out here and there. When he gets into trouble, she tells him to head for Midnight, Texas, a very, very small town full of some odd people. We're talking vampires, witches and even angels. (Well, one guy has wings and protects the town, so I'm guessing that's what he is.)

Sounds like "True Blood," right? Well, first of all, it's on network TV, so there'll definitely be less violence and nudity. The thing that's different here is the charm. This show doesn't seem to be taking itself too seriously, where "True Blood" definitely did a lot of the time. This one has a talking cat. OK, I'm not sold on that part yet, but I'm willing to give it a shot. The stakes seem high, but the actors seem to be having fun. It doesn't feel … heavy. I think I'm right at the point where that sounds absolutely lovely. I bet I'm not the only one.

I think the thing that struck me about "True Blood" was that it was about a bunch of outsiders who wouldn't fit in anywhere else, and the few humans who are totally cool with that. I like the idea of a place where no one gets judged for who they are. We'll see how it plays out when it premieres this summer, but for right now, I'm totally in. Bring on the weirdos!

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WHERE TO EAT, DRINK & PLAY

The best Easter brunches

Be prepared for a buffet-style feast at The Little Lion. ALL IMAGES PROVIDED

Don't fill up on candy — you'll want room for waffles.

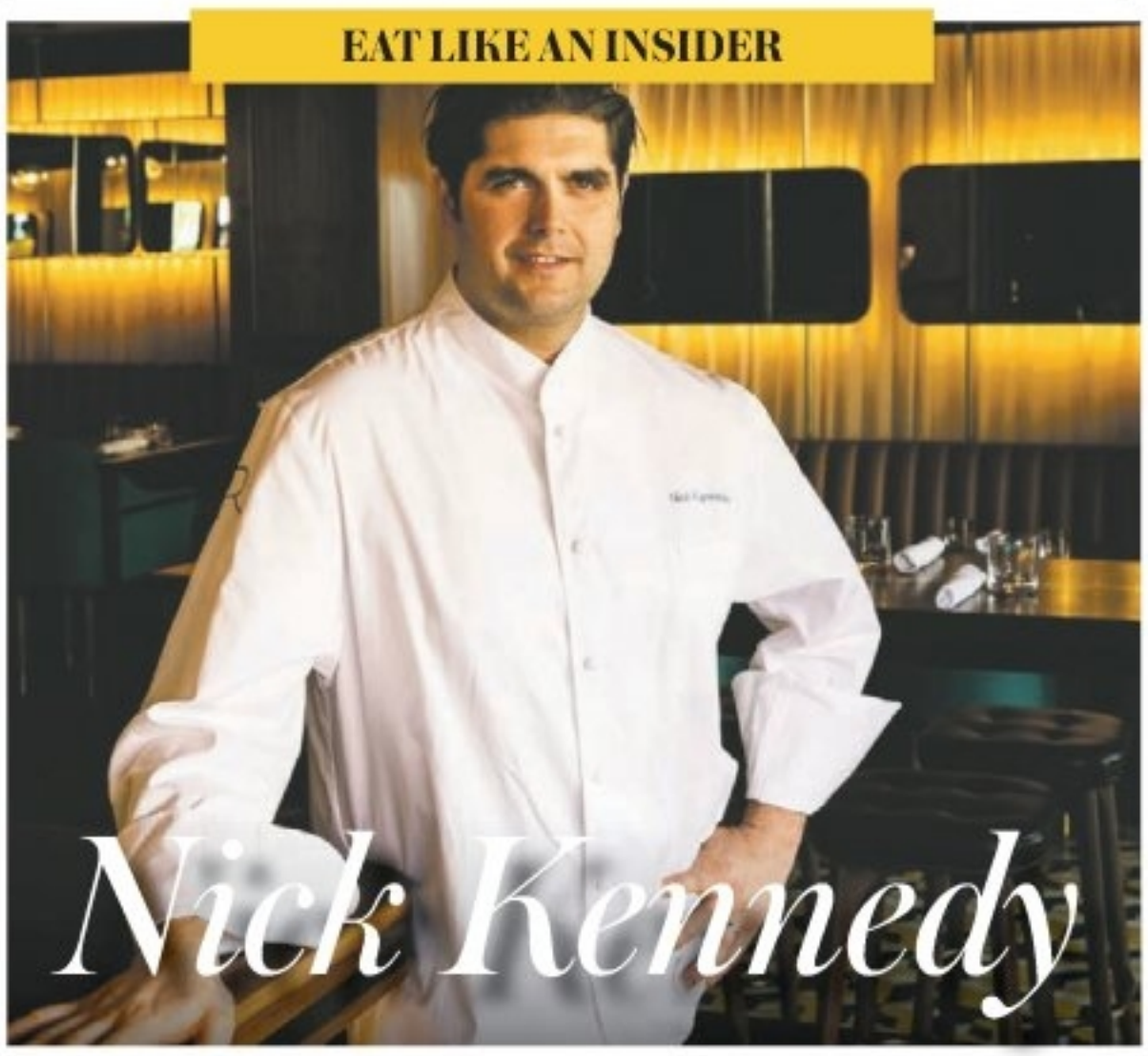
JENNIFER LOGUE
@jenniferlogue
jennifer.logue@metro.us

Easter is only a few weeks away — and while the kids have a basket of sugary sweets to look forward to, we'd much rather dig into a decadent brunch (with or without them tagging along). A number of Philly restaurants are offering special menus to celebrate, serving up buffet-style brunches with eggs Benedict stations and a la carte menus with the perfect mix of sweet and savory selections. Here are our picks for the best Easter brunches in Philly, where you can dine with a view or even rub elbows with the Easter Bunny himself.

The Twisted Tail
509 S. Second St.
thetwistedtail.com
Bringing the whole family to feast on Easter Sunday? The Twisted Tail is hosting their prix-fixe Grand Easter Brunch from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Served buffet-style, the offerings include prime rib, spring leg of lamb, omelette stations, fresh fruit displays, waffle stations, breakfast pastries and more. End the meal on a sweet note with cotton candy from The Twisted Tail's cotton candy machine, which will sure be a hit with the kids. The Grand Easter Brunch costs $42 per person and $25 for children between 3 and 10 years old.

SkyBrunch
1717 Arch St.
skybrunch.com

EAT LIKE AN INSIDER



Nick Kennedy

Nick Kennedy always loved food, but it wasn't until he got his first restaurant job as a garde manager (pantry chef) in New Jersey that he fell in love with the food industry. Since 2015, the Culinary Institute of America grad has called Philly home and now serves as the executive chef and co-owner of Root Restaurant & Wine Bar in Fishtown. The 37-year-old tells us where to get the best clam chowder in the city, how to get the "full experience" at culinary treasure Zahav and where you can eat scrambled eggs and sea urchin.

Best late night meal?
Honestly, after a long day

Looking for brunch with a view? SkyBrunch has a special Easter buffet with stunning vistas of Center City from the 50th floor. Enjoy a plethora of offerings including waffles, pancakes and omelettes as well as a special greeting from the Easter Bunny as you enter the space. While the setting might seem stuffy, don't let that fool you — it's quite welcoming and perfect for families. Seatings take place at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. The brunch costs $50 per person and children 12 and under pay their age. (Oh, to be young!)

Celebrate Easter with a view at SkyBrunch.

The Little Lion
243 Chestnut St.
thelittlelionphilly.com
Strolling through Old City on Easter Sunday? Take a break from seeing the sights and fuel up at The Little Lion on the corner of Third and Chestnut streets. The lofty, bi-level space gives you room to breathe as you feast on their sumptuous Easter Sunday Brunch Buffet, open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.. Dig into glazed ham, lamb, buffalo chicken and biscuits, red velvet French toast and more. There will even an omelette station and eggs Benedict station for the control freaks in your crew. Adults eat for $35 and kids between 6 and 12 years old eat for $15.

Red Velvet French Toast at the Little Lion

The Living Room Cafe
701 S. Fifth St.
thelivingroomcafe.com
In the mood for a more intimate brunch experience for you and your honey bunny? Mosey on down to The Living Room Cafe in Queen Village from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. to feast on their Easter brunch specials. Menu highlights include The Preston (cinnamon apple French toast with a warm dulce de leche, bourbon blueberry compote, homemade whipped anglaise and walnuts) and The Steve (one chocolate chip waffle and one coconut waffle with granola, honey, syrup, butter and fresh fruit). Need some java? Their mocha looks to die for.

Scarpetta
210 W. Rittenhouse Square
scarpetta.com
Not in the mood for a buffet-style brunch? The swanky Scarpetta in Rittenhouse Square has you covered with a stunning view of the park to complement your meal. From 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., their a la carte brunch menu includes shrimp & grits, almond french toast, steak & eggs and eggs Fiorentina (poached egg, English muffin, pancetta, spinach, hollandaise). Prices vary depending on the dish and be sure to plan for a bottle of bubbly or two to add event more effervescence to the occasion.

I just like getting home and pouring a glass of scotch.

Best meal under $10?

Andy's Chicken (2001 Memphis St.) in Fishtown has amazing Korean fried chicken, and their hot and spicy chicken is downright addictive.

Best hidden foodie gem?

Stock (308 E. Girard Ave.) in Fishtown. Their food is pure and focused with a complexity and clarity of flavor that's hard to find. They also don't hold back on the chili. A few dishes I suggest are the prahok kee and Thai style green papaya salad, as they are always part of my meal.

Best place to dine alone?

Oyster House (1516 Sansom St.) is the best place in the city for raw oysters, especially when you wash it down with a pint of Yards Nitro Stout, followed by a cup of clam chowder. It's the perfect solo lunch.

Oyster House: good for going solo.

Place you always take out-of-towners?

Michael Solomonov's take on modern Israeli cuisine at Zahav (237 St. James Place) is exciting. Everyone I take here wishes they had one in their hometown. If you want the full experience, I recommend the "Mesibah" tasting menu.

Go-to date spot, hands down?

Cheu Noodle Bar (255 S. 10th St.) is fun and loud and I've never had a bad meal here. It's really hard not to order everything on the menu, which is what we usually end up doing.

Best place to catch up with friends?

Vernick (2031 Walnut St.) has unsurpassed service with a great wine list but I usually can't resist trying a few of their cocktails as well. I prefer to sit at the bar and work my way through the menu. The scrambled eggs with sea urchin is mind blowing.

Most Instagrammable restaurant?

Fork (306 Market St.). Their creativity and attention to detail is inspiring. Each time I visit it's a new experience.

For more information on Root Restaurant & Wine Bar, visit: rootrestaurant.com.

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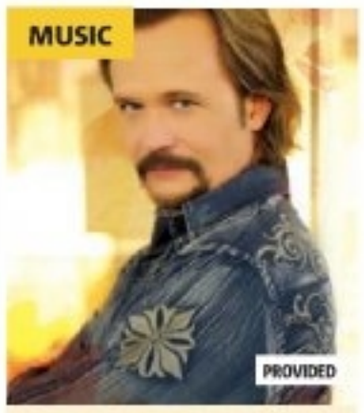

PROVIDED

Travis Tritt

Country legend Travis Tritt brings a little twang to the ongoing Valley Forge Music Fair. Tritt was one of the biggest-selling country artists of the late-'80s and '90s, helping to define that golden era of country music with ditties like "T-R-O-U-B-L-E," ""Help Me Hold On" and "Foolish Pride."
April 7, 8 p.m.
Valley Forge Casino
1160 First Ave.
$40-$55
vfcasino.com

MUSIC

Philly Celebrates Jazz

April is Jazz Appreciation Month in Philadelphia, which means you have 30 days to take in a host of events celebrating the genre. Check creativephl.org for a multitude of events happening every day—including free concerts in City Hall on Wednesdays from noon to 1 p.m. Among the one-off performances this weekend are saxophonist Kris Allen on Friday night at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and a kid-friendly jazz workshop at the Kimmel Center Saturday called Grow Up Great.
Through April
Various locations
creativephl.org

Boss Hog

Boss Hog, the late-'80s garage-punk outfit founded by husband-wife duo Cristina Martinez and Jon Spencer, just released their first album in 17 years. Give it a listen at their record-release party at Underground Arts Saturday night.
April 8, 9 p.m.
Underground Arts
1200 Callowhill St.
$15-$18
undergroundarts.org

ART

Art Unleashed

Looking for some cool and affordable new bling for your home? Hit up Art Unleashed at University of the Arts all weekend to browse original work made by students, faculty, alumni and staff. Goods up for grabs range from paintings and artisanal jewelry to sculpture and selections of furniture. If you want to be among the first to peep the artwork, snag a ticket to the exhibition's opening party April 6. That goes from 4 p.m.-9 p.m. and features cocktails and light fare.
April 7-10
Dorrance Hamilton Hall
320 S. Broad St.
artunleashed.uarts.edu

"Another Way of Telling"

Philadelphia Museum of Art digs into its archives for an exhibition that spotlights international female photographers from the 19th and 20th centuries. The collection includes many photographs that have never been seen at the museum, and features works by artists like Berenice Abbott, Diane Arbus, Kelli Connell and Elaine Stocki. Together, they come together to tell a story about how women used their lenses to explore identity and conventional female roles around the globe.
April 8-July 16
Philadelphia Museum of Art
2600 Benjamin Franklin Pkwy
Free with $20 admission
philamuseum.org

BOOKS

Alec Baldwin

Man of the hour Alec Baldwin reads from his memoir, "Nevertheless," at the Penn Museum Friday night. The multi-award-winning actor may be one of the defining comedic minds of this generation, but the book delves into some not-so-funny moments in his life, touching on painful childhood memories, his struggles with addiction and myriad relationship woes. Unsurprisingly, the event is sold out, but you can get on a wait-list by emailing authorevents@freelibrary.org. Good luck!
April 7, 7:30 p.m.
Penn Museum
3260 South St.
$37, freelibrary.org

PERFORMING ARTS

Philadelphia Burlesque Festival

For four shimmy-filled days, burlesque dancers from across the country perform for local audiences in venues across the city. The Philadelphia Burlesque Festival shines a light on the art that has deep roots in Philadelphia, and features many types of performances. Look out for shows starring 2016 Burlesque Hall of Fame inductee Poison Ivory, Vegas "boy-lesque" artist Mr. Gorgeous, and an explosive closing night hoopla at Franky Bradley's featuring music from the Striptease Orchestra.
April 6-9
Various locations
thephiladelphiaburlesquefestival.com

"Shadowland"

Pilobolus Dance Theater comes to the Annenberg Center for a two-day performance of "Shadowland." The dreamy production uses athletic feats of modern dance and lively multimedia creations to tell the story of a teenage girl's "Alice in Wonderland"-recalling journey through a fantastical world of shadows. Note that, even though this is a kids' show, it contains brief nudity, strobe lighting and gunfire.
April 7-8
Annenberg Center
3680 Walnut St.
$30-$75
annenbergcenter.org

JOSH MIDDLETON

YOUR WEEKEND STARTS NOW

CAUSES

PROVIDED

Walk Against Hunger

The annual Walk Against Hunger moves to a new location this year, but the mission stays the same: to raise money for more than 100 hunger-relief agencies in the Philly region. The walk begins with a lap around Lincoln Financial Field and culminates with a family-friendly day of activities, like live music, food trucks and photo opps with Eagles mascot Swoop.
April 8, 8:30 a.m.-11 a.m.
Lincoln Financial Field
1 Lincoln Financial Field Way
hungercoalition.org

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TREASURE AWAITS

Experience Cuba without a passport

Much of Ybor City remains a throwback to the origins of Tampa. KEIR MAGOULAS

Tabanero Cigars VISIT TAMPA

Explore Tampa's rich culture and heritage, including a surprising tie to the Caribbean country.

ED CONDRAN
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

Florida is a relatively young state, but what it lacks in old buildings it makes up for with plenty of cultural history. You'll find plenty of cigars and even a slice of Havana in Tampa, particularly in vibrant Ybor City.

Have a cigar

We knew we were in the right place at the first whiff of the aromas emanating from Tabanero Cigars.

Ybor City in downtown Tampa is known as the cigar capital of the world, with a number of old-school shops where stogies are hand-crafted. Our favorite is Tabanero Cigars, which offers an array of quality smokes. Located in the heart of Ybor on Seventh Avenue, the microfactory (just six rollers at the front of the shop turn out its stock) is renowned for the quality of its tobacco and the skill of its artisans. We enjoyed the Maceda Press, a rich cohiba, which is potent but not overpowering. There's nothing like sitting on a couch with your feet up while puffing away indoors.

Experience old-timey Tampa

After finishing off our stogies, we wanted to learn more about cigars, so we trekked to the Tampa Bay History Center, which features a reproduction of a 1920s cigar store.

Details of the rise, fall and re-emergence of the cigar and Tampa are covered, along with a sprawling 12,000 years of Florida history. As much as we love cigars, the section of the museum chronicling the Spanish conquistadors is the most fascinating and worth the visit. Much like the rest of Tampa, the History Center is expanding: An $11 million addition will open by autumn, with a promising first exhibit called "Treasure Seekers: Conquistadors, Pirates and Shipwrecks."

See the original Magic Kingdom

Well before Disney World, there was the Tampa Bay Hotel. The first building to be electrified in the Sunshine state attracted the elite, who vacationed in opulence at the turn of the 20th century.

The hotel, which had an indoor pool, a casino and a racetrack, among many other amenities, closed during the Great Depression. However, you can see what life was like at the hotel, which is a National Historic Landmark, by visiting the Henry B. Plant Museum that's now housed in the same building. It's worth checking out the site, which is now part of the University of Tampa, just to eyeball the artifacts (luxurious furniture and revealing photos) and the striking Moorish Revival architecture.

An offer you can't refuse

Walk right into mob history on one of author Scott Deitche's Mafia Tours of Ybor City. See where George "Saturday" Zarate and Charlie Williams were gunned down, learn where the made men hung out and see more evidence of an underworld as dangerous and colorful as Chicago's. Deitche's 90-minute tour is inspired the book and film "Live By Night," which Ben Affleck directed in Tampa.

Visit Cuba without leaving the country

In 1951, a Cuban couple decided to donate their Ybor City property to the state of Cuba as a memorial to the poet and revolutionary Jose Marti. Newly free and independent Cuba accepted, and Tampa has a small patch of Cuban land, a serene and well-maintained plot open to the public. Marti, a provocative 19th-century philosopher, would be pleased that so many picnic in his bucolic park.

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Born free

Melting snow fuels an impressive (and quick) transformation at Yosemite National Park. GETTY IMAGES

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7-Day Caribbean $585* pp — Ocean View $630* pp, Taxes & fees $150.07pp, Balcony $659* pp
7-Day Alaska $499* pp — Ocean View $549* pp, Balcony $1099* pp
7-Day Alaska $699* pp — Ocean View $899* pp, Balcony $1199* pp
10-Day Caribbean $849* pp — Ocean View $999* pp, Balcony $1199* pp
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7-Day Europe $589* pp — Ocean View $769* pp, Taxes & fees $60.78pp, Balcony $1439* pp
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7-Day Mexico $599* pp — Ocean View $689* pp, Balcony $889* pp
10-Day Europe $629* pp — Ocean View $899* pp, Balcony $979* pp
10-Day Europe $1149* pp — Ocean View $1639* pp, Taxes & fees $120.30pp, Balcony $2189* pp
7-Day U.S/Canada $639* pp — Ocean View $799* pp, Taxes & fees $154.96pp, Balcony $1089* pp
10-Day Panama $899* pp — Ocean View $1239* pp, Balcony $1439* pp
800-387-6747
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Budget-conscious spring travelers, your answer is our glorious national parks.

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Fodor's Travel intelligence.
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Once spring has sprung, it's time to get out and enjoy the great outdoors. And what better way to experience nature than in some of our magnificent national parks? This year, plan a trip for April 15-16 or 22-23, when entry fees are waived in honor of National Park Week.

Yosemite

Spring comes quickly at Yosemite National Park, with the melting snow fueling peak waterfall season. By April, even the smallest creeks gush with water, and the park's iconic waterfalls flow at full throttle. Mirror Lake fills to the brim, offering a stunning reflection of Half Dome that can't be seen during drier times of the year. Visit in late April or early May to catch the eruption of dogwood blossoms, which some would argue rival even the waterfalls.

Kenai Fjords

Located on the edge of the Kenai Peninsula, the ice fields, icebergs and glaciers of Kenai Fjords National Park are spectacular in any season. But the park is perhaps the most awe-inspiring in the spring when gray whales return to Alaska to feed, and millions of birds begin their annual journey to the rookeries of the rocky coasts.

Great Smoky Mountains

With 1,500 types of flowering plants, more than any other North American park, Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Tennessee and North Carolina is often referred to as Wildflower National Park. The milder temperatures and reduced haze in spring make for ideal visiting conditions.

Joshua Tree

Head to California for the unique sight of desert flowers in the spring. While Joshua Tree National Park's namesake greenery is mesmerizing in its own right, the ocotillo, or vine cactus, steals the show. With enough spring rain, the tall, spindly plant busts into unexpected crimson flowers. Springtime visitors also appreciate the more humane temperatures,

Joshua Tree National Park
GETTY IMAGES

ideal for rock climbing and bouldering, along with crisp, campfire-worthy evenings.

Zion

Easily one of the most dramatically beautiful landscapes on the planet, Zion National Park's cooler spring temperatures make for more pleasurable hiking along its many exposed (read: scorching hot) trails. Spring visitors to this Utah park enjoy fewer crowds, spectacular high-volume waterfalls courtesy of the snow melt and rare glimpses of green contrasting against the sun-drenched orange rock.

Death Valley

The hottest place on the planet in the summer (up to 120 degrees), California's Death Valley National Park in the spring provides a warm and welcome reprieve from the chill of winter. And the scenery borders on otherworldly with vast sand dunes and towering peaks. Spring break and Easter can get crowded, but seeing the blankets of desert wildflower blooms in this stark landscape is worth it.

Arches

With the highest density of natural stone arches in the world (more than 2,000 of them), driving through Arches National Park in Utah is a surreal experience. In March, and even early April, you're likely to have it to yourself. Temperatures are a mild 60 degrees, and the La Sal Mountains are still snow-capped, which makes for startling photos of the orange sandstone arches and clear blue sky.

Shenandoah

With nearly 200,000 forested acres (almost all of which are open to backcountry camping), Shenandoah National Park in Virginia is most popular during the fall foliage. Spring sees some of the fewest visitors, but perhaps the most unique beauty thanks to park's 850 species of flowering plants. Visitor facilities and services reopen for the year in March, and the wildflower display begins in late March, continuing to summer.

Glacier

Northern Montana can be chilly in the spring, with temperatures in the 30s and 40s, but that just means fewer visitors at Glacier National Park, making for an unforgettable wildlife experience. In the spring, you'll see more critters than people at Glacier, including bears, moose, elk and sheep.

For fragile Sixers, next season is most important thing

The 76ers have little to play for as the 2016-17 season nears its end.

ANDY JASNER
@AndyJasner
sports@metro.us

The coaching staff and players will clearly disagree, but the remaining games don't matter from here on out.

Maybe for a fringe D-League player like Shawn Long or Alex Poythress, the final four games count. But with the litany of injuries crushing the 76ers, it's all about the pingpong balls for the fourth consecutive season.

The Sixers were demolished by the lowly Brooklyn Nets, 141-118, Tuesday night at the Wells Fargo Center. Eight Nets reached double figures as they won for just the 19th time all season.

The Nets set Wells Fargo Center records for points (141), first half points (81) and first half 3-pointers (12). In addition, the Nets shot a blistering 64 percent (48 for 75), including 16 for 31 from beyond the arc. It was the 12th time in franchise history that the Nets shot at least 60 percent from the field and 50 percent from 3-point land.

Yes, the Sixers (28-50) are depleted with Joel Embiid, Ben Simmons, Jahlil Okafor, Jerryd Bayless and Robert Covington out for the season. Sergio Rodriguez also missed the game with an injury and Dario Saric is on a 24-minute restriction with a heel injury described as plantar fasciitis.

There's only so much the Sixers can do to compete and that was clearly evident against the Nets. The conclusion of the regular season can't come soon enough.

"What do you say? It's one of those games," Sixers coach Brett Brown said after the 23-point defeat. "We give Brooklyn credit. We couldn't guard them. None of us could guard any of them. I could just leave and that should be the headline."

All the Sixers can do is play hard over the last four games and then look to the offseason.

"There is a lot of components that next year will be very different," Sixers guard Justin Anderson told reporters. "We have Ben coming back to play, we have some guys who are injured that are going to get back out there. It's not just one angle or one component that's going to be very valuable for us. I can't wait for training camp with this team, just the way that we do things, the schemes and the system we run is very good. I think all of us have done a great job of adjusting quick. We don't want to hang excuses or put things in front of why we didn't win the game. I cannot wait till we get healthy, but were going to keep leaving out hearts out there on the floor."

And then it's time to hope for the best in the annual NBA lottery. The Sixers will be in the running for players such as Kentucky's Malik Monk and De'Aaron Fox, Washington's Markelle Fultz — who attended the game Tuesday — UCLA's Lonzo Ball and Kansas' Josh Jackson among others.

The injured players all could be back with Embiid and Simmons being the two most important ones. They need to return 100 percent healthy and prove that they can be durable and help resurrect this franchise.

Free agency awaits.

The 2017-18 season will soon be here. The work starts as soon as the final four games mercifully come to an end.

The Sixers have surpassed expectations in 2016-17 despite ending the season with just eight active players. GETTY IMAGES

STORAGE KING USA
NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

Notice is hereby given that Storage King USA will sell the contents of the storage units listed below at a public auction to satisfy a lien placed on the contents (pursuant to 73 PS). The sales will take place on 4/11/17. The sale will be conducted on StorageStuff.Bid, under the guidance of Christopher Rosa (AU006857) on behalf of the facilities' mgmt. Units will be available for viewing prior to the sale on StorageStuff.Bid. Contents will be sold for cash only to the highest bidder. A 10% buyer's premium will be charged and $100 (units larger than 150 sq ft will be more) cleaning deposit per unit. All sales are final. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale or to refuse any bids. The property to be sold is described as "general household items" unless otherwise noted. Storage King USA at 535 E. Price St., Philadelphia PA 19144 will list storage units on the website StorageStuff.Bid at 11:00 a.m. 4/11/17 or up to 7 days prior to this date.

#2218 - ALESHA WILLIAMS - HOUSEHOLD • #2128 - DOMONIQUE WOODS - HOUSEHOLD
#2316 - DELORES HUNTER - HOUSEHOLD • #1073 - CASSANDRA COOLEY
#2323 - LAVENE WILLIAMS - HOUSEHOLD • #2299 - LANEEN PHILPOT - HOUSEHOLD
#2246 - LEONARD BAILEY - HOUSEHOLD.

Public Storage **NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY**

Pursuant to the Pennsylvania Self-Storage Facility Act, Pennsylvania Statutes, Title 73, Chapter 26, § 1901 et seq., a public auction will take place on **4/20/2017**, at the below-listed Public Storage facilities, for the following units/Tenant. The contents of which shall be sold satisfy the owner's lien. **Public Storage Located At, 3751 Bristol Pike, Bensalem, PA 19020 at 12:00 PM. (215) 245-4365.**

Emmanuella Babin, Jay Rankowitz, Ernest Schulz, Mary Ann Williams, Christopher Bollendorf, James Leonard

All Sales Are subject to Cancellation Public Storage Terms, Rules and Regulations will be made prior to the sale. PS Orangeco Inc. 701 Western Ave. Glendale California, 91201. PS ORANGECO, INC

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Dawn Lindmar, Lakisha Murphy, Berla Sanon, James Loveless, Robert Jackson, Donald Robinson, Harry Collins, Elvis Proko, Sommerton Center, Maritess Oldenburg, Desiree Mcgroarty, Tammy Abernathy, Rhonda Fairfax

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Joann Fritz, Michael Mazer, DANA HARGROVE-MOORE, Geraldine Ashby, Erwin Morris, Gus Burgmann, Yvette Rivera, Deborah Blum, Four Points by Sheraton, Christin Pike, Thor Armistead, Barbara Coates, Harry Geiger, Susan Diaz, Natalie Sharpe, LYNEA COLES, Christina Saunders, BEATRICE Collins, Reginald Kelly, Clement Hipple, Barbara Coates, Lenette Thigpen-Robinson, Gina Goodman, Joseph Meade, James Markoe Jr, Adam Haynes, Shawn Oconnell.

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1316 - Moore, Robert

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1134 - Ledebur, Alexandra • 2004 - Pretty, Matthew • 2065 - Walker, Nicole • 2077 - Clark, Darryl 2095 - Hackaday, Kevin • 2118 - Baker-Jackson, Maxine • 3100 - Muldrow, Jessica • 3136 - Babb, Karen 3140 - Hill, Alaina • 3193 - Jaimes, Denise • 3226 - Hill, Rita • C1016 - Thomsen, Daniel

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E224 - Borkowski, Jeffery

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Pursuant to the Pennsylvania Self-Service Storage Facility Act, Pennsylvania Statutes, Title 73, Chapter 26 § 1901 et seq., a public auction will take place on **4/19/17**, at the below-listed Public Storage facilities, for the following units, the contents of which shall be sold to satisfy the owner's lien. **Public Storage Located At, 7571 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19128 at 10:00AM 215-482-5051**

B003 - baker, Bill • C002 - Kelly, Michael • C005 - baker, Bill C036 - LANDAU, Elias • D063 - Hansell, Michelle • D100 - LANDAU, Elias D235 - Wells, Julian • D243 - Gibbs, Andre • D286 - Sunkett, Khadijah D299 - Crescenzo, Michael • D305 - Brown, Nakeeta

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A101 - Robinson, Marcus • A122 - Washington, Clifford • B310 - Wells, julian B403 - Woods, Anthony • B416 - Urbanowski, Jason • B446 - Kendrick, Clara • C543 - Lewis, Lisa D809 - Mckinney, Reginald • E1008 - Chavis, Mary • E1051 - BAYLOR, ALBERT • G1344 - Brooks, James

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B080 - GREEN, LOUIS • B234 - GREEN, LOUIS C192 - Green, Chanelle

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A124 - Mair, Stephanie • A221 - Meredith, Anthony • A405 - Williams, Dolena • A528 - Comerica, Joseph A530 - Johnson, Lamella • A533 - Woodson, Kemel • A645 - Lillston , Angela • A646 - Griffith, Edward E. A717 - Bailey, John • A827 - Hodges, Joannelle • B2022 - Kyranarios, Vassilios B3008 - Frank, Mckenzie • B3021 - Crump, Maurice • B929 - Powell, Michael

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A143 - Daniels, Steve • A178 - Sesay, Theresa • B233 - Umwana, Dinah • B235 - Lawson, Tiffany B236 - Glover, Stevie • B245 - Daniels, Elaine • B257 - Lewis, John • B280 - Maiorana, Joseph B281 - Williams, Shanell • B319 - White, Darren • B362 - Chapman, Toya • B478 - Marchmon, Helen B491 - Roberford, Arlene • B554 - Roundtree, Andre • C618 - Brown, Mateena C658 - Martin, Louise • C746 - Jones, Leroy • C787 - Lipscomb, Sharon • C800 - Bright, Renee C812 - Cooper, Artis • C820 - Robinson, Robert • C877 - Young, Jacqueline

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No shortage of golf drama as Masters tees off

Headlines off the course and last year's Jordan Spieth meltdown dominate storylines as 81st Masters starts Thursday.

EVAN MACY
@evan_macy
evan.macy@metro.us

Jordan Spieth will finally return to the site of one of the most memorable meltdowns in the history of sports. GETTY IMAGES

It's been a busy week for golf.

Not only in the Northeast and other areas of the country where warm weather and snow melt means casual golfers can hit the links again, but also with regard to controversies.

No Masters in recent memory had so many tangentially related headlines swirling around the news cycle as the top golfers in the world get set to tee off at a rain-soaked Augusta National.

First, last week's controversial rules violation that cost Lexi Thompson an LPGA major championship when, a day later, a fan watching on TV anonymously reported a rules violation as she marked her ball improperly, costing her four strokes.

Phil Mickelson addressed the issue at media day this week, saying he thinks some golfers have been too relaxed about following specific rules and that the pro golfers themselves must do better.

"I feel like we've all kind of been a little lax at times in the markings of our golf ball and I hate to see it cost somebody a major championship because of that," Mickelson, who at 18-1 has the fourth best Vegas odds to win his fourth Masters. "But yet I would like to see that type of nuance of the game improved on both tours, especially ours."

Another controversy was front and center at Masters media day, as Rory McIlroy seeks to win his first Masters and complete a career grand slam. He was heavily criticized for playing golf with Donald Trump earlier this year after the divisive figure won the presidency. Trump has famously spent a lot of time on the links as commander in chief much to the chagrin of many Americans who had hoped he'd spend more time working in Washington.

McIlroy defended his decision to play with Trump even while differing politically.

"I've spent time in President Trump's company before, and that does not mean that I agree with everything that he says," McIlroy said. "Actually, the opposite. ... There was not one bit of politics discussed in that round of golf. He was more interested talking about the grass that he just put on the greens."

McIlroy went on to say that knowing then what he now knows about the backlash it created, "I'd think twice about it."

And finally Jordan Spieth, whose controversy is on the golf course instead of off. Favored just behind Dustin Johnson as the No. 2 favored golfer to win another green jacket, Spieth was on cruise control in 2016 to win a second straight Masters before hole No. 12 derailed his effort thanks to two balls in the water. This opened the door for Danny Willett to become a surprise winner.

After sticking one close on the 12th during a practice round this week, the always good-humored Spieth told the gallery, "I really could've used that one 12 months ago."

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U-HAUL MOVING & STORAGE OF NORRISTOWN
1305 W MAIN ST NORRISTOWN, PA 19401 (610)275-2470
AUCTION DATE: 04/20/2017 TIME 11:00 AM

ERIK LARSON ROOM# 0035, ROBERT ELLSWORTH ROOM# 4003, YVONE DEGUARDIA ROOM# 3015, YVONE DEGUARDIA ROOM# 0111, KATIE HINTON ROOM# 1004, YASMINE HUNTER ROOM# 0025, LAURA YERGER ROOM# 0024, DAVON CARROLL ROOM# 3017, MILLIE RAINEY ROOM# 1058, BREOHN LEE ROOM# 4033, JAMES SUTTON ROOM# 0064, REBA HILL ROOM# 1009, SANIYYAH HILL ROOM# 0028, DAVID CRAM ROOM# 4028, HARRISON HATCHER ROOM# 2049, DAVID CRAM ROOM# 4027, SIERRA BOYER ROOM# 0020, JIM BARCKLY ROOM# 2017, JIM BARCKLY ROOM# 1010, JAMIE CARTER ROOM# 0030, LUCY DIREMIGIO ROOM# 3014, SANDRA SPENCE ROOM# 0078, CORY MAYO ROOM# 1067

U-HAUL MOVING & STORAGE OF HORSHAM
1418 EASTON RD HORSHAM, PA 19044
AUCTION DATE: 04/20/2017 TIME: 1:00PM

BEVERLY JOHNSON ROOM# 3002, SHANA BREINICH ROOM# 2079, MARC GETMAN ROOM# 1024, CHRISTOPHER ROSE ROOM# AA4997B, RAFAEL MARTINEZ ROOM# 2083, KRYSTLE HANNAH ROOM# 3030, MIRACULINS INC ROOM# 2072, TIFFANY WILLIAMS ROOM# 1065, KARSON GARNER ROOM# 2114, JAIMI CORDNER ROOM# 3001, MARC GETMAN ROOM# 1039, MARC GETMAN ROOM# 1051, ALVIN DUNSTON ROOM# 3027, MARGARET STEWART ROOM# AA39728, ANNE OUTTEN ROOM# 1002, TONI MORRIS ROOM# 1087, ANDREA ARKING ROOM# 1052, DONIER MCINTYRE ROOM# 1030, SUSAN MAGILL ROOM# 2075, MICHAEL TAGGART ROOM# 3046, JAMES BROWN ROOM# 1008, KEITH DICK ROOM# 1076, GARRETT WISEMAN ROOM# 2061

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TIPS TO WIN YOUR FANTASY LEAGUE THIS SEASON

Grabbing Jonathan Villar last April would have been a monster pickup. GETTY IMAGES

OPINION

KYLE BISHOP
@amoralpanic

All leagues have held their drafts, and now it's finally time to play the games. Here are some tips to help you start the season on the right track.

Forget draft costs

The second you've won the rights to a player, it no longer matters what you paid for him (barring keeper and dynasty league considerations).

All that you should be focused on now is their contribution — or lack thereof — to your roster. Perhaps you stocked up on power at the expense of speed, or vice versa. Maybe you have too many hitters with low batting averages, or could use another high-strikeout pitcher. Whatever the case, don't be afraid to trade for a player who can help shore up a weakness, even if he came at a lower price than the asset you give up in return.

Be proactive, not reactive

You can't win your league in April, but you could very well lose it. Resist the urge to overreact to season-opening slumps by established stars or hot starts by little-known players. Often, both turn out to be blips on the radar. There are exceptions — you would have turned a tidy profit dumping Troy Tulowitzki for Jonathan Villar last April, for instance. But before you put in that waiver claim for the flavor of the week, you'd do well to recall players like Tyler White and Jeremy Hazelbaker. This doesn't mean you should sit on your hands. After all, sometimes that April breakout turns out to be a harbinger of things to come. Just don't read too much into small samples. The fantasy baseball season is a marathon, not a sprint.

Use every resource at your disposal

If you're a competitive fantasy owner, you've likely devoted a good chunk of time and effort to preparing for your draft. That prep is still useful in the early going. For one thing, it should help you determine exactly how long of a leash you'll give to every player on your roster. It can be extremely difficult to decipher whether a player's triumphs or struggles in the opening month are legitimate, but knowing his history — strengths and weaknesses, injuries, and so on — can often shed light. There's no shortage of resources out there for data, analysis and news. Put them to work for you. Even if you're a more casual player, you can utilize tools like the watch list to help you keep track of player performance on the waiver wire. This is particularly helpful in the early stages of the season, when stat lines fluctuate wildly and it's easy to lose players in the shuffle.

Have fun

Never forget this one. Even if you put a lot of work into your teams or raise the stakes by putting money on the line, remember that you got into this game for the simple truth that it's fun. Enjoy the games, and good luck this season!

Kyle Bishop is a lead MLB columnist at RotoBaller.com. His articles and Fantasy Baseball Rankings are your secret weapon for winning fantasy leagues.

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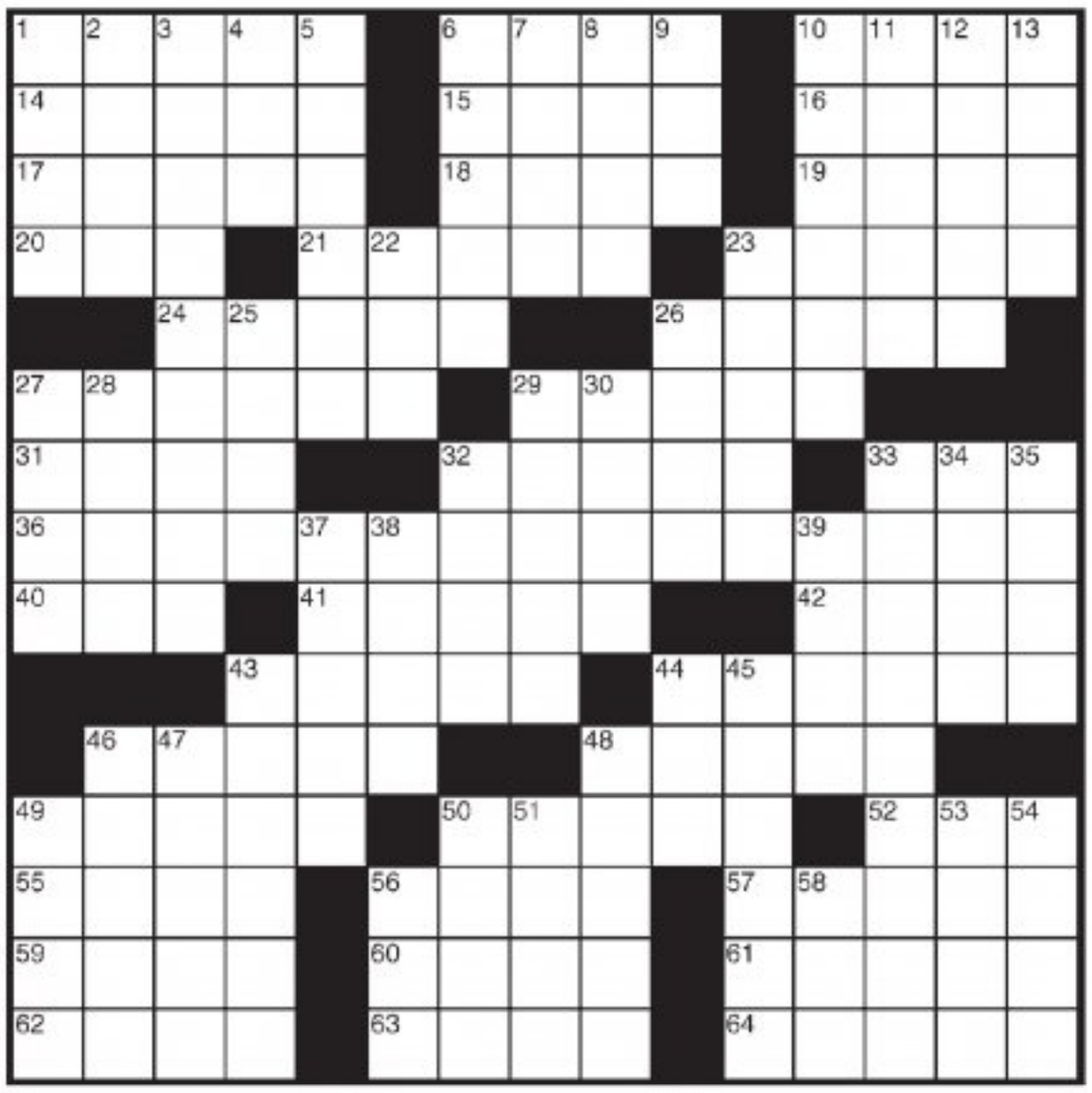
metro.us/games

metro.us/crossword

Across
1 – Centauri
6 Tobacco wad
10 Kind of lens
14 Soft purple
15 Caesar's bear
16 Lectern
17 Practice
18 Valhalla honcho
19 Sedaka or Simon
20 – tai cocktail
21 "Nutcracker" togs
23 Banqueted
24 Bete –
26 Bear down
27 Lure
29 Persil rival
31 Aloha tokens
32 Dainty ornament
33 Bark or yelp
36 Zebras' motto (3 wds.)
40 Pointy-shoe wearer
41 Got into port
42 Pre-Tina Turner
43 Sponges up
44 Broccoli bit
46 Fleeces
48 Jumbo shrimp
49 Gem of an oyster
50 Fluctuates (hyph.)
52 Novelist – Levin
55 Cartoon shrieks
56 Auto pioneer – Benz
57 Used a strop
59 "En garde" weapon
60 Diet spread
61 Bordered
62 Vanessa's sister
63 Marquee sign
64 Some secretaries

Down
1 One who reunes
2 Ms. Kudrow
3 Defendant's adversary
4 Old crone
5 Acid in vinegar
6 Cost estimate
7 Lahore language
8 Cow-headed goddess
9 Karate level
10 More wacky
11 Foretellings
12 Drama awards
13 Mildew
22 Ending for depart
23 Fantasy
25 Seine feeder
26 Altiplano locale
27 If not
28 "Hud" Oscar-winner
29 Motion pictures
30 Bridge holding
32 Rake tooth
33 Longings
34 Drury Lane composer
35 Exam for jrs.
37 Gabardine, e.g.
38 Shrill barks
39 – hot and cold
43 Go downhill
44 Curly coif, for short
45 Thunked, as a tail
46 Tearful
47 Bucket of song
48 Traffic cone
49 Flake off, as paint
50 Sturdy lock
51 Popular cookie
53 Give off fumes
54 Appends
56 "– -Tiki"
58 Sonnet cousin



metro.us/sudoku

easy

9				3				8
		4					3	
			6	8	5	9	4	
					7	2		4
7			4	1	2			5
5		2	9					
	8	1	2	9	3			
	5					1		
2				4				6

hard

5		7	1			2		8
1					6	7		
				8	3			
		3	8	5				2
		9				1		
2				6	1	3		
			6	7				
		2	4					9
4		6			8	5		1

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Taking business trips, giving interviews and learning skills will help you set a course for success. If you honor a promise, you will gain an ally.

Taurus Don't take someone's challenge of you the wrong way. Size up the situation before you commit to any competitive act that could lead to an injury. Stand up for yourself.

Gemini Consider making a change to your current work environment. An opportunity will arise, but before you accept, make sure you can afford the underlying cost.

Cancer Stay focused when it comes to work and taking care of business. Refuse to let anyone dump his or her responsibilities on you. Let your anger spur you to work harder.

Leo Don't let your personal life interfere with your job. If you have taken on too much, you must step up and work hard to get things done on time.

Virgo A change in your personal finances is apparent. Be careful how you deal with tax matters and people trying to take advantage of you. Focus on personal gains.

Libra You'll attract interesting people. Be careful what you get drawn into. Change can be good, but not if you can't afford it. Temptation will drag you down.

Scorpio The choices you have will excite you, but will probably leave friends or loved ones worried about the outcome. Reassurance will help you gain support.

Sagittarius If you change your lifestyle, it will give you the freedom you need to follow your heart and dreams. Don't give in to someone trying to control your life.

Capricorn Home is your sanctuary, and whether you make a residential move or alter your current living situation, you stand to prosper. Listen to your heart.

Aquarius Paying down personal bills will get you back on track. Money will come from an unexpected source, but you will end up being responsible for the paperwork involved.

Pisces It will be difficult to keep up with all the changes going on. Take a step back and remember what's important. Emotional arguments can be expected. EUGENIA LAST

Yesterday's answers

G	E	S	T	S	■	C	R	T	S	■	W	E	S	T
A	T	A	R	I	■	Z	O	O	S	■	H	A	M	E
T	A	G	U	P	■	A	L	A	N	■	I	G	E	R
S	L	A	T	H	E	R	E	D	■	A	T	L	A	S
■	■	■	H	O	P	I	■	S	I	N	C	E	R	E
S	A	S	■	N	I	N	A	■	M	O	O	■	■	■
A	V	G	■	S	C	A	B	■	P	A	M	P	A	S
K	I	T	H	■	■	S	A	M	■	■	B	O	A	R
I	S	S	U	E	D	■	T	A	V	S	■	M	R	T
■	■	■	M	I	D	■	E	D	I	T	■	P	E	A
J	A	K	A	R	T	A	■	H	E	E	D	■	■	■
A	L	E	N	E	■	G	L	O	W	E	R	I	N	G
D	I	V	E	■	L	I	E	U	■	R	O	D	E	O
E	V	I	L	■	A	L	A	S	■	E	N	E	R	O
D	E	N	Y	■	S	E	R	E	■	D	E	M	O	N

Can't wait until tomorrow to check your answers? Visit **metro.us**

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